White Tiger in Delhi Zoo

1309. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the white tiger born in Delhi Zoo on 16th June, 2000 died;

(b) if so, the reasons for its death; and

(c) the action proposed to ensure increase of white tigers in Delhi Zoo?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) Three white tiger cubs born on 16th June, 2000 died on 20-6-2000, 22-6-2000 and 10-7-2000 respectively. The mother disowned the cubs and stopped feeding. All the efforts were made to save the cubs by hand rearing in the zoo hospital. However, all the three cubs developed various complications and died on the dates mentioned above. Measures to ensure conservation of white tigers in Delhi Zoo include improved upkeep and better health care of animals.

Restoration of River Satluj in Himachal Pradesh

1310. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any project proposal for restoration of River Satluj in Himachal Pradesh to carry out the feasibility study and prepare action Plan for restoration of water quality of the said river; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and what action Government have taken or propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A proposal amounting to Rs. 78.60 lakhs was received in October, 1994 from Government of Himachal Pradesh for undertaking a study to assess the pollution load of river Satluj in the State for preparation of an action plan for the restoration of the water quality of the river. The study was not undertaken as the water quality of river Satluj in the Stretch flowing through Himachal Pradesh was within the prescribed standards.

Inclusion of Sunabeda Sanctuary as Tiger Reserve

1311. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps are being taken for inclusion of Sunabeda Sanctuary in Orissa, as Tigar Reserve, under the Project Tiger Scheme;